1   1. (currently amended) A system for supporting an arbitrary activity involving

2   collaborators,

3   the system comprising:

4   a processor which has access to a representation of a model of the

5   activity, the model including model entities, the model entities being in

6   hierarchical relationships one with another, the hierarchical relationships

7   including a first hierarchy and a second hierarchy, the first hierarchy neither

8   containing nor being contained in the second hierarchy, the second hierarchy

9   including a model entity that also belongs to the first hierarchy, and the

10   representation including representations of the model entities and of the

11   hierarchical relationships, the form of the model being defined by the

12   collaborators and the representations of the model entities providing access to

13   information relating to the activity; and

14   an interface to the system for the collaborators, the interface being

15   provided by the processor and the interface making the model entities, their hierarchical

16   relationships, and the information to which the representations of the model entities

17   provide access perceptible to permitting a collaborator and permitting the collaborator to

18   modify to observe and modify the model entities and, their hierarchical relationships,

19   and to observe and modify the information to which the representations of the model

20   entities provide access.

1   2. (previously presented) The system set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2   the representation of the model entity includes representations of the information.

1   3. (currently amended) The system set forth in claim 2 wherein:

2   the interface further permits a collaborator to observemakes the model entities as

3   sorted according to values of the included representations of the information perceptible

4   to a collaborator.

3

1   4. (currently amended) The system set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2   the model further includes representations of further information; and

3   the interface ~~permits the collaborator to observe~~makes how the further

4   information is related to the model entity perceptible and ~~to observe~~makes the further

5   information perceptible.

1   5. (original) The system set forth in claim 4 wherein:

2   the interface further permits the collaborator to modify the further information.

1   6. (original) The system set forth in claim 5 wherein:

2   the further information is a document that is accessible to the system.

1   7. (original) The system set forth in claim 5 wherein:

2   the further information is a message sent to the collaborator by another

3   collaborator.

1   8. (original) The system set forth in claim 5 wherein:

2   the further information is an alert that indicates a change in the model that is

3   relevant to the collaborator.

1   9. (original) The system set forth in claim 5 wherein:

2   the further information is a reminder generated by the system for the collaborator.

1   10. (original) The system set forth in claim 5 wherein:

2   the further information is a discussion concerning the model among the

3   collaborators.

1   11. (original) The system set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2   the representation of the collaborator-defined model of the activity permits the

3   model to be viewed in a plurality of ways; and

4   the interface permits the model to be viewed according to the plurality of ways.

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1   12. (canceled)

1   13. (previously presented) The system set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2   there is a plurality of types of model entities;

3   a representation of a model entity specifies the represented model entity's type;

4   and

5   the interface ~~permits the collaborator to observe~~makes the type of a model entity

6   perceptible to the collaborator.

1   Claims 14-23: (canceled)

1   24. (currently amended) The system set forth in claim 4 wherein:

2   there is a plurality of types of model entities;

3   a representation of a model entity specifies the represented model entity's type;

4   the interface ~~permits the collaborator to perceive~~makes the type of a model entity

5   perceptible to the collaborator; and

6   a related representation of further information may be related to a representation

7   of a model entity of any type.

1   25. (previously presented) The system set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2   the collaborators have different access privileges with regard to particular ones of

3   the model entities; and

4   the interface determines what a collaborator observes of the model entities

5   according to the collaborator's access privileges.

1   26. (canceled)

1   27. (canceled)

1   28. (previously presented) The system set forth in claim 1 wherein:

5

2   There is a plurality of the first hierarchies, one first hierarchy of the plurality

3   neither containing nor being contained in another first hierarchy of the plurality; and

4   the second hierarchy includes model entities from different ones of the first

5   hierarchies.

1   29. (previously presented) The system set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2   there is a plurality of the second hierarchies, one second hierarchy of the plurality

3   neither containing nor being contained in another second hierarchy of the plurality; and

4   a model entity may belong to more than one of the second hierarchies.

Claims 30-36: (canceled)

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